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CENTRAL FAX CENTER****JUN 15 2004****PATENT****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

THORNTON et al.

Application No.: 09/650,969

Filed: August 29, 2000

For: NEAR FIELD OPTICAL APPARATUS

Examiner: Davienne MONBLEAU

Art Unit: 2878

Confirmation No.: 8650

Attorney Docket No.: ST 2622.01 US

**AMENDMENT AFTER ALLOWANCE
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.312**

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Dear Madam:

In response to the Notice of Allowance dated March 29, 2004, Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the allowed claims 1-48. However, Applicant wishes to cancel allowed claims 4 and 12 from the allowed claim set. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute these two cancelled claims at a later date.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.